



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

INDIANA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 11

Field activities progressed rapidly early in the week with warm, sunny days and favorable soil conditions, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. **Corn** planting is underway with 2 percent of the intended acreage planted. Last year, less than 1 percent of the corn acreage was planted by this time. Rain late in the week slowed fieldwork.

WINTER WHEAT

Twenty-three percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **jointed**, compared to 40 percent last year and 15 percent for the 5-year average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 80 percent good to excellent, compared to 88 percent at this time a year ago.

SEED BED PREPARATION

Field preparation continued to make good progress last week, especially in the central and northern areas of the state. Fieldwork in the southern regions was slowed by wet field conditions. Tilling of soils, applying pesticides and fertilizer along with purchasing supplies and preparing equipment were the major activities taking place. Overall progress is ahead of normal.

OTHER CROPS

Availability of hay and roughage supplies was rated 23 percent surplus, 70 percent adequate and 7 percent short. Pastures and forage crops are greening up and starting to grow and develop. **Pasture condition** was rated 10 percent excellent, 51 percent good, 29 percent fair, 8 percent poor and 2 percent very poor. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Calving and lambing active.

DAYS SUITABLE and SOIL MOISTURE

For the week ending Friday, 3.8 days were rated **suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 1 percent very short, 8 percent short, 73 percent adequate and 18 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 3 percent very short, 13 percent short, 74 percent adequate and 10 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS

| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-Year Avg |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Percent | | | | |
| Wheat Jointed | 23 | 7 | 40 | 15 |

CROP CONDITION

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|--------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Percent | | | | | |
| Winter Wheat | 0 | 2 | 18 | 64 | 16 |
| Winter Wheat | 0 | 3 | 23 | 55 | 19 |
| Winter Wheat | 0 | 1 | 11 | 59 | 29 |
| Pasture | 2 | 8 | 29 | 51 | 10 |

SOIL MOISTURE

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Percent | | | |
| Topsoil | | | |
| Very Short | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| Short | 8 | 23 | 0 |
| Adequate | 73 | 65 | 34 |
| Surplus | 18 | 6 | 66 |
| Subsoil | | | |
| Very Short | 3 | 5 | 1 |
| Short | 13 | 19 | 4 |
| Adequate | 74 | 71 | 52 |
| Surplus | 10 | 5 | 43 |

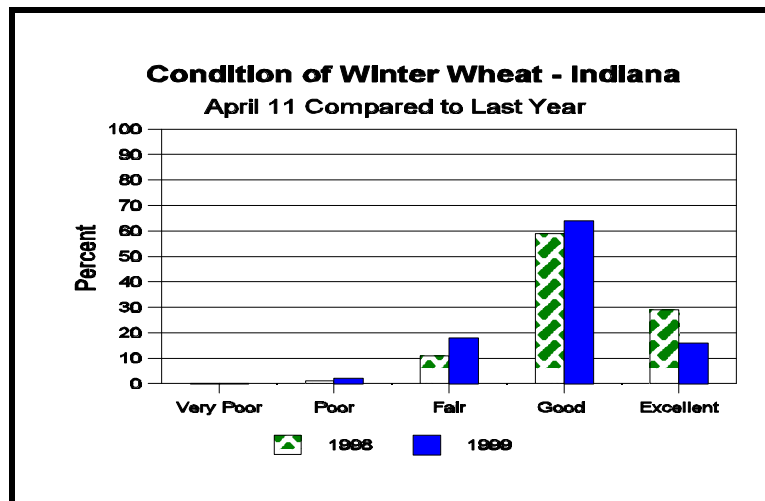
--Ralph W. Gann, State Statistician

--Bud Bever, Agricultural Statistician

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<http://info.aes.purdue.edu/agstat/nass.html>

Crop Progress



Leaf and Glume Blotch on Wheat

- Start thinking about leaf and glume blotch on wheat

Although wheat has only recently jointed in southern Indiana, and has not yet jointed in the northern part of the state, we are entering the critical period for development of leaf and glume blotch of wheat. Leaf blotch can be caused by either of two fungi - *Septoria tritici* or *Stagonospora nodorum*. The symptoms caused by each fungus on leaves are similar and can only be distinguished reliably by microscopic examination of diseased tissue. *Stagonospora nodorum* is also capable of infecting heads of wheat and causing glume blotch.

Both fungi require wet weather to cause disease on wheat. At this time of year, lesions can be found on the lowest leaves of wheat plants. They appear as yellow or tan spots and often contain pin-head sized black spots. These are fruiting bodies of *Septoria tritici*. *Stagonospora nodorum* produces similar fruiting bodies in lesions, but they are not as dark, and therefore harder to see. When the leaf surface is wet, spores produced inside these fruiting bodies ooze out onto the leaf surface. Splashing rain drops disperse these spores to younger leaves higher in the plant canopy. When the leaf surface remains wet for long periods, these spores germinate, and the fungus invades the plant and produces more lesions. When there are several periods of prolonged rainy weather during April and early May, leaf blotch progresses up the plant and can result in premature death of the upper two leaves - the leaves that are most important for grain filling. Continued wet weather after head

emergence can lead to glume blotch. *Septoria tritici* is favored by somewhat cooler weather than is ideal for *Stagonospora nodorum*, so often we see more *Septoria* leaf blotch early in the season, but if wet weather continues later in the season, *Stagonospora* leaf and glume blotch are the greater problem.

It is too early to tell whether leaf and glume blotch will be a problem on wheat this year. The frequency of rainy days and the warmth of the spring have a major effect on development of these diseases. If we have several 2- or 3-day periods of drizzly weather, especially if nighttime temperatures during these wet periods remain above 45°F, then these diseases could be severe. In that case, it may be wise to consider using a foliar fungicide. In our work, we have generally found that an application at beginning of flag leaf emergence (growth stage 8) is most effective. However, the labels for both Tilt and Quadris allow treatment through full head emergence (growth stage 10.5). If there are a lot of rainy days prior to flag leaf emergence, it is better to apply fungicide at growth stage 8. If application is delayed until symptoms actually appear on the flag leaf, it may be too late for the fungicide to be effective. By the time heads emerge, lesions will still be confined to the lower canopy, but latent (not yet visible) infections will be in upper leaves. If weather is not excessively wet during the forecast is for wet weather after heading, then a fungicide treatment might be delayed until after head emergence (stage 10.5).

—Gregory Shaner, Dept. of Botany & Plant Pathology, Purdue University

Weather Data

Week ending Sunday April 11, 1999

| Station | Past Week Weather Summary Data | | | | | | | Accumulation | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|----|-----|-----|---------|------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|-----|
| | Air Temperature | | | | Precip. | | Avg 4 in. Soil Temp | April 1, 1999 thru April 11, 1999 | | | | |
| | | | | | Total | Days | | Precipitation | | GGD Base 50°F | | |
| | Hi | Lo | Avg | DFN | | | | Total | DFN | Days | Total | DFN |
| Bloomington | 75 | 40 | 58 | +7 | 0.97 | 3 | | 1.85 | +0.45 | 6 | 99 | +66 |
| Bluffton | 76 | 35 | 54 | +8 | 0.79 | 3 | 51 | 1.07 | -0.26 | 5 | 80 | +64 |
| Butlerville | 78 | 38 | 57 | +5 | 1.41 | 5 | 60 | 2.52 | +0.99 | 8 | 91 | +47 |
| Castleton | 76 | 36 | 57 | +8 | 0.81 | 5 | | 1.19 | -0.12 | 8 | 99 | +76 |
| Crawfordsville | 75 | 33 | 53 | +4 | 0.28 | 3 | 53 | 0.68 | -0.78 | 5 | 60 | +34 |
| Dubois_Ag | 77 | 40 | 60 | +9 | 0.97 | 3 | 61 | 2.20 | +0.64 | 6 | 116 | +77 |
| Evansville | 76 | 43 | 62 | +9 | 0.99 | 3 | | 2.51 | +1.03 | 6 | 136 | +82 |
| Farmland | 80 | 36 | 55 | +9 | 0.77 | 5 | 52 | 1.23 | -0.06 | 8 | 75 | +64 |
| Fort_Wayne | 78 | 35 | 53 | +7 | 1.29 | 5 | | 1.48 | +0.27 | 8 | 71 | +59 |
| Freelandville | 75 | 42 | 58 | +8 | 0.80 | 3 | | 2.06 | +0.69 | 5 | 98 | +62 |
| Greenfield | 74 | 36 | 56 | +8 | 0.70 | 5 | | 1.19 | -0.23 | 8 | 77 | +59 |
| Indianapolis_AP | 76 | 39 | 58 | +9 | 0.92 | 4 | | 1.23 | -0.12 | 8 | 107 | +81 |
| Indianapolis_SE | 74 | 36 | 56 | +7 | 1.17 | 5 | | 1.67 | +0.36 | 9 | 82 | +59 |
| Logansport | 76 | 38 | 53 | +7 | 1.19 | 4 | | 1.44 | +0.23 | 6 | 65 | +51 |
| New_Castle | 76 | 35 | 54 | +8 | 0.65 | 5 | | 1.20 | -0.22 | 8 | 63 | +52 |
| Perrysville | 76 | 37 | 56 | +9 | 0.64 | 3 | 54 | 1.05 | -0.35 | 4 | 92 | +71 |
| Plymouth | 76 | 36 | 52 | +6 | 2.02 | 4 | | 2.93 | +1.55 | 6 | 75 | +58 |
| Scottsburg | 77 | 39 | 57 | +6 | 0.81 | 3 | | 2.17 | +0.62 | 5 | 96 | +60 |
| Shoals | 76 | 40 | 58 | +8 | 1.57 | 3 | | 1.59 | +0.09 | 4 | 97 | +62 |
| South_Bend | 72 | 37 | 53 | +7 | 1.82 | 5 | | 2.43 | +1.01 | 7 | 80 | +69 |
| Tell_City | 77 | 44 | 62 | +9 | 0.95 | 1 | | 1.35 | -0.42 | 2 | 125 | +77 |
| Terre_Haute_Ag | 75 | 42 | 59 | +10 | 0.92 | 4 | 58 | 1.66 | +0.30 | 6 | 115 | +86 |
| Tipton_Ag | 77 | 34 | 54 | +8 | 0.42 | 3 | 52 | 0.74 | -0.66 | 5 | 66 | +55 |
| Valparaiso_Ag | 73 | 34 | 53 | +7 | 1.07 | 3 | | 1.28 | -0.12 | 4 | 75 | +61 |
| Vincennes_5NE | 76 | 43 | 59 | +9 | 1.47 | 4 | 58 | 2.83 | +1.46 | 6 | 107 | +71 |
| Wanatah | 75 | 32 | 50 | +5 | 1.35 | 5 | 54 | 1.65 | +0.29 | 7 | 49 | +38 |
| W_Lafayette_6NW | 74 | 35 | 54 | +8 | 0.77 | 4 | 54 | 1.27 | -0.01 | 5 | 81 | +66 |
| Wheatfield | 76 | 35 | 53 | +8 | 1.46 | 4 | | 1.82 | +0.46 | 6 | 76 | +65 |
| Winamac | 76 | 36 | 54 | +8 | 1.44 | 3 | 52 | 1.84 | +0.54 | 5 | 83 | +68 |
| Young_America | 76 | 36 | 53 | +7 | 0.65 | 4 | | 0.70 | -0.51 | 5 | 65 | +51 |

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

GGD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Wheat Condition

☐ wheat crop looks good

Based on my own inspection (close-up or “windshield”) of wheat fields in Indiana, and from comments received from others who have been looking at wheat, the crop appears to be in generally good condition. Wheat is greening up and stands are thick. A few fields still show yellowing, symptomatic of virus infection.

Serological testing of samples from a field in Daviess County revealed infection by wheat spindle streak mosaic virus but not wheat soilborne mosaic virus. Lower leaves on these plants were yellow; upper leaves showed a faint mosaic, characterized by spindle-shaped pale green areas. Dan Egel, Plant Pathologist at SWPAC, reports that powdery mildew is in wheat in Knox County.

—Gregory Shaner Dept. of Botany & Plant Pathology,, Purdue University

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